

at Wel-hai-wai was in a mutinous state owing to the non-arrival of money to pay the men, and that there was fear of a riot which might have seriously affected the harbor. A telegram was subsequently received stating that all trouble had been settled, and that the troops, having been paid up to date, declared that they would fight to the last against the Japanese.

The following Imperial decree was issued on the 22nd December with reference to some of the military officers responsible for the loss of Port Arthur:

The Emperor commands the following report telegraphed by Sung Ch'ing, Generalissimo of the army in Manchuria:—Generals Chiang Kuei-t'ung and Ch'eng Yün-ho, two of the four military commanders of Port Arthur, managed to escape, after the loss of that stronghold, with the remnants of their divisions to the advanced corps of Sung Ch'ing, commanded by General Sung Te-sheng. Since then these two Generals have shown their desire to redeem their past errors by bravely fighting the enemy. In view of this, therefore, Sung Ch'ing asks Li Hung-chang to pray for the Imperial clemency on behalf of Generals Chiang Kuei-t'ung and Ch'eng Yün-ho, and that they be allowed to serve under Sung Ch'ing for the present. For the same reasons clemency is also prayed for on behalf of Chang Kuang-t'ung, the officer commanding the torpedo corps and the land mines, and the division of the place, to the division of General Chang Kuo-yuan (T'engchow Brigadier-General) holding Kalping, etc. With reference to the above it cannot be denied but that the Generals responsible for the loss of Port Arthur are deserving of the most severe punishment. We are, however, willing to stretch a point, since the officers referred to in Li Hung-chang's memorial have been trying their best to atone for their past offences. We therefore simply punish Chiang Kuei-t'ung, Ch'eng Yün-ho, and Chang Kuang-t'ung by depriving them of rank and titles, and allow them to serve under Sung Ch'ing, for the present, in order to give them a chance to redeem their characters. If, however, they are indeed so lost to the feeling of shame as to show cowardice in the future, then Sung Ch'ing is hereby commanded, without the necessity of any further reference to us, to behead these three men at once in accordance with martial law.

General Feng Te-shai, the well-known officer who suppressed the insurrection of Yang T'ien-shai, fifteen years ago on the borders of Annam, when the latter put himself forward as a pretender to the Annamese throne, has been called to retire from his home in Kuangtung, after a retirement of several years. General Feng is a warm friend of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, who admires him, and it has been through the urgent recommendation of this Viceroy that the Emperor has issued two edicts in succession calling upon King Kuangpho, who is also a junior brother of the Emperor, to assume the command of the army, and to retire from his home in Kuangtung, after a retirement of several years. General Feng is a warm friend of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, who admires him, and it has been through the urgent recommendation of this Viceroy that the Emperor has issued two edicts in succession calling upon King Kuangpho, who is also a junior brother of the Emperor, to assume the command of the army, and to retire from his home in Kuangtung, after a retirement of several years.

MASONIC NOTES FROM AMOY.

The annual regular Lodge of Corinthian, Amoy, No. 1866, E.C., was held on Saturday, 8th December, when the following officer-bearers for the ensuing twelve months were duly installed and invested:

Bro. Francis Cass, P.D.G.S., W.M.
Wor. Bro. W. T. Hewitt, I.P.M.
" R. T. L. H. H. S.W.
" P. C. P. S.W.
" N. J. H. S.W.
" F. H. Edwards, Secretary.
" F. T. Woodcock, S.D.
" A. Young, J.D.
" L. K. H. S.W.
" J. F. S. S.W.
" J. G. S. S.W.
" J. Phillips, I.G.
" J. Phillips, I.G.
At the annual meeting of the Lodge of Amoy, No. 1866, E.C., held on December 11th, the following officers for the ensuing year were elected by the W.M., Worshipful Brother M. M. T. Thomson:

Wor. Bro. F. B. Marshall, I.P.M.
" T. G. G. S.W.
" A. J. S. S.W.
" A. P. S.W.
" C. H. S.W.
" W. M. S.W.
" A. W. S.W.
" C. S. S.W.
" T. G. S.W.
" J. Phillips, I.G.
After the business of the evening had been performed, a banquet was given, at which the customary masonic toasts were duly honored.

VELEXIOUS ARRESTS IN BANGKOK.

A CONSUL-GENERAL AND THE POLICE.

The irritating and quite needless manner in which the Siamese authorities acted in collecting the poll tax on Chinese, has on many occasions caused great annoyance and inconvenience to foreign residents. It is the custom to seize any Chinaman in the street who is unable to produce a receipt for the poll tax, and as many of these receipts happen to be the cooks and messengers of firms or private residents, the hardship will be at once apparent. The Police might have mitigated the nuisance to some extent by notifying the foreign employers of such arrests, but no such course has been taken, and Chinamen, cooks, coolies, or messengers are arrested and detained for the day, or till such time as they obtain money to pay the triennial tax, and their employers left in absolute ignorance of their fate or whereabouts.

On Friday morning, December 14th, the police were following their usual procedure at the end of the Windmill Road, and had captured a herd—their treatment suggests the capture of Chinese who were of the poor wretches being fastened to a post. Among this motley crew, and awaiting soon to be marched off to the Bangkok Station, was the cook of a popular Chinese restaurant, who, after a long time, usual for his daily marketing, soon after 1 a.m., and had been pounced upon by the Police in the usual way, and tied up with several others of his countrymen. The Consul-General protested, and called the attention of his captors to the fact that his master was ill and awaiting breakfast. But the policeman's heart was not moved. He had no compassion for a sick man, and the Consul-General, and told the cook that he was a Chinese-Siamese epithet, that he had no right to his master the Consul-General's name.

The unfortunate Chinaman, Kung Ho, who was almost starving in the midst of Chinese who were deprived of food and sleep at the same time, was released at the

Bangkok Police Station was useless. The cook was not there. So the Consul-General de S. M. la Reine des Pays Bas was forced to go forth and seek his lost cook. And he found him as we have stated—tied by the waist and standing in a broiling sun awaiting the midday march to the police station. The cook, the poor fellow, was a Chinaman, Kung's first son, and his second was equally bold and straight-forward. After having ascertained from the cook the facts of the case he attempted to obtain explanations from the police, who were curt and sharp in reply, while keeping well out of arm's length. However by a brilliant manoeuvre the Consul-General seized the offending "blue-bottle," and administered a very sound drubbing to the guardian of the peace, who humbly refused to acquiesce in his cook's arrest. The cook was then carried off in triumph. The action of the Consul-General is applauded by the general foreign community as calling attention to what has grown to be an intolerable nuisance. It is now generally hoped that the Siamese Government will endeavour to arrive at some arrangement whereby the present absurd system of arrests in the streets will be rendered unnecessary in future.—*Siam Free Press.*

NEWS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

The China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Taiwan*, Captain R. Nelson, with the Australian mail, arrived in harbour yesterday. For the following telegrams we are indebted to our Colonial exchanges:

LONDON, November 26th.

The *Times* this morning, in commenting on the political situation in Victoria, expresses an opinion that the colony might save £400,000 a year by reductions in the expenditure of the education vote. It considers that it is inopportune to bring forward at present a measure extending the franchise to all adults, male and female.

In the French Chamber of Deputies M. Ribot, formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Premier in 1893, has drawn attention to the visit to England of Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Premier of the Cape Colony.

M. Ribot asserts that prior to the treaty between France and Great Britain, made in 1890, Mr. Rhodes, being a daring, ardent, and venturesome man, desired Great Britain to seize Madagascar. He was bitterly disappointed that an agreement should have been entered into between the two Powers, thus preventing the execution of his designs.

At the request of his Government Sir James Garlick, Agent-General for Queensland, has decided to retain office for another year.

November 28th.

In a letter to the press the Marquis of Salisbury refers to bimetalism as a subject of supreme importance to the Empire.

Father Rosignoli, a Roman Catholic missionary, who effected his escape from the Sudan, and reached Cairo in safety, after having been held captive by the Mahdi for ten years, states that appalling corruption and misery prevail among the Sudanese. The Mahdi, he says, is sending three armies against the Italians, who occupied Kassala.

Much excitement prevails at Johannesburg, in the Transvaal Republic, South Africa, in consequence of the Sanitary Board having forbidden the use of the English language during the debates of the board. The burghers are holding a conference to consider the question of the adoption of a united policy against foreigners.

It is reported that the vessel conveying the Arctic Expedition of Lieutenant Peary has been wrecked in the polar regions, and that the whole party has perished.

The French Chamber of Deputies has ratified the tariff convention entered into between France and Canada.

General Yonoff, the Russian commander in Central Asia, has been appointed to the command of the Russian Exploring Expedition to Tibet.

The London County Council has approved of the petition proposals of the Royal Commission.

Cape Colony will enter the Postal Union in January next.

The French Chamber of Deputies has ratified a reciprocal commercial convention between the French and the Canadian Governments. By this convention favourable treatment is accorded to the importation into France of Canadian timber and fruit. In exchange Canada accords similar favourable treatment to French wines.

M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in bringing the proposed convention before the Chamber, said that the Canadian Government hesitated about assenting to it, and consented ultimately only because they desired that their first commercial treaty with a foreign Power might be with France.

The statement was received with loud cheers by the Deputies.

November 29th.

A nihilist manifesto has been issued in Russia. It says: "Down with autocracy. Nicholas declares he will make Russia happy. We order him to make her free."

The statement published in the *Daily Telegraph* to the effect that it is the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir William Harcourt, to reduce the rate of interest paid on deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank to 2 per cent, proves to be untrue.

The American Bimetallist Conference, which is sitting at St. Louis, has resolved not to vote for any candidate for a public office unless he is in favor of the free coinage of silver at the gold ratio of 16 silver to one gold.

The death is announced of Lord Swanswick, as Sir H. Hussey Vivian, represented Swanswick in the House of Commons from 1885 until he was raised to the peerage in 1893. He was in his 73rd year.

It is the opinion in the City that the Queensland loan will be successfully floated if the price be moderate.

The Carr proposes to introduce a system of elementary public education in Russia.

An alarming subsidence of land has taken place at Tacoma, in Washington Territory, United States.

A large portion of the docks, 600 ft. in length, has disappeared into the bay, and two steamers sank.

The whole of the North Pacific Railway Company's buildings collapsed.

C. R. Harding, of Wandsworth, has accepted a challenge from T. Sullivan, the New Zealand sculler, to row over the championship course on the Tyne, for £200 a side.

It is understood that the directors of the Imperial Institute propose that at the end of the year they should cease to light the colonial courts and to otherwise provide for special services in connection with those courts until the arrears of the colonial contribution have been paid, and an equitable bill of future payments arranged.

The Pope has invited Cardinal Vaughan, Archbishop of Westminster, to visit Rome to discuss the question of a union between the Church of England and the Church of Rome. His Holiness proposes to convene a conference of Cardinals on the subject.

The deaths are announced of Professor Charles Thos. Newton, C.B., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., the eminent antiquarian, and well-known Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum, aged 78, and of Viscount Monck, formerly a Lord of the Treasury, and Governor-General of Canada from 1861 to 1868, aged 75.

M. Hanotaux, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, called yesterday at the German Embassy in Paris, and expressed regret for the attacks made by the Paris press upon the Embassy as being the chief centre of political espionage in France.

Count Munster, the German Ambassador, declined to accept the explanation and apology of the French Minister as satisfactory, and made very serious complaints as to the general tone of the newspapers towards Germany.

December 1st.

Sir William Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has despatched a Commissioner to Sweden to report upon the Gothenburg liquor sale system.

The Earl of Jersey, British delegate to the late Ottawa Conference, has presented to Parliament his report upon the proceedings of the conference.

Lord Jersey considers that the proposals embodied in the recommendations of the conference are sound and practical, and possess great advantages to the Empire. He advises that the recommendations should receive the generous consideration of the Imperial Government. He sees no serious objection to the removal of the disability by which Australia is prevented from entering into differential relations with other British colonies. Great Britain, he says, might consider acting with wisdom in abandoning the existing commercial treaties with Belgium and Germany, it would not be possible to induce those countries to abrogate the clauses in their treaties under which the colonies are prevented from entering into such preferential relations with each other.

The Marquis of Salisbury contributes an article to the *Financial Times* on the subject of "Review" on the position of the House of Lords and the attitude of the Government towards that Chamber. He says that the recent speeches of the Earl of Rosebery as to the intentions of the Government show that they wish to enthrone the House of Commons as absolute sovereign in legislation, and to create a conflict which will last for generations.

In connection with the arrest of M. Girard, the Paris manager of the "Nineteenth Century," on a charge of levying blackmail, it is stated that he demanded £3,000 of the Trans-Atlantic Steamship Company. The company refused the demand, and as a consequence suffered loss to the extent of £60,000.

The Messageries Maritimes R.M.S. *Polynesia*, which arrived at Marseilles yesterday, brought news from Madagascar, of the capture of the French steamer *Albatros* by the British.

The reports that Colonel Shervington and a number of other British military officers have arrived at the island with a view of directing the operations of the Hovas against the French.

Lord Jersey considers that Great Britain is unable at present to accept a preferential agreement with the colonies, because it would be the means of creating a new Customs barrier against foreign produce. Referring to the proposed Atlantic steam service between Canada and England, to connect with the present Canadian-Australian service, Lord Jersey expresses the opinion that an Imperial subsidy of £75,000 could easily be provided by diverting half the mail postage from the New York lines to the Canadian service, to which the said subsidy had been granted.

The Admiralty has decided to build a new fleet of British armed cruisers. The dangers to which it was feared the Canadian service would be subjected owing to fog and icebergs in the Atlantic were exaggerated. Lord Jersey eulogises the "splendid and far-seeing patriotism of Canada" in granting a substantial subsidy to the proposed steam service, and points out that the future success of the scheme must depend on the action of the Australian Governments interested. Adverting to the question of the Pacific cable, Lord Jersey admits the strategic and commercial advantages of such a cable, but refrains from making any recommendation to the Imperial Government on the subject. He bears testimony to the enterprise of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, under the leadership of Sir John Pender, in the work of cable extension, but remarks that this does not entitle the company to a monopoly in cable communication with Australia.

France has taken measures to greatly increase the strength and efficiency of her Navy. There are at present 84 warships on the stocks in the French naval dockyards. Including 73 ironclads, 24 cruisers, and two cruisers of the Coastal type. £1,200,000 in the building of further vessels for the Navy next year.

December 2nd.

The *Staff* says it is expected that France early next year will place a loan for £40,000,000 upon the market.

December 3rd.

The *Times* comments the stand taken by Mr. H. M. Nelson, Premier of Queensland, upon the question of payment of members. It says that his presence in office has given confidence in regard to the new loan proposals of the Queensland Government.

The death is announced of Mr. James Weatherly, proprietor of the *Rocky Colorado*. He died in the city of Brussels. Twenty-two persons were either killed or seriously injured.

December 4th.

The *Times* states that it is rumoured that the Treasury authorities intend to allow the Post Office Savings Bank to invest deposits in Indian stock.

The steamer *Gulf of Venice*, in leaving the Clyde bound for Australia, struck the Greenock breakwater, and was badly damaged.

In a message to the United States Congress President Cleveland advises the Government to withdraw from the tripartite agreement in regard to Samoa on reasonable terms, and such as would not be prejudicial to American rights.

He points out as a reason for this step that the present arrangement for the control of the group has not stimulated American trade or corrected the evils of the Government in Samoa.

The message is favourable to reforms in the United States currency, based upon the Baltimore plan.

Nihilist plots have been discovered against the Czar Nicholas II.

Mr. Aquilino, the Home Secretary, has instituted inquiries into the charges of cruelty towards children alleged against the master and other officials of St. John's (Roman Catholic) Industrial School at Wallborough, Essex. The report of the board of inquiry shows that the charges are not proved.

The *Barque Earl of Zealand*, bound from London to Melbourne, has gone ashore at Romney, on the coast of Kent.

The Agents-General of the Australian colonies are asking their respective Governments for instructions as to whether they should support the extension of the present mail contracts until 1898, and generally, the decisions of the Wellington Postal Conference.

R.M.S. *Pyralis* has been commissioned to replace the *Curacao* on the Australian station, the *Curacao* having been recalled.

The managers of the Orient and P. and O. Companies have declined to allow Mr. Gordon Campbell, the Victorian producer agent, to visit London to inspect the mail boats on the coast of New Zealand.

Thirty-eight thousand boxes of last season's colonial butter are at present stored in London.

In commenting on the report of the Earl of Jersey the British delegate to the Federal Conference at Ottawa, the *Standard* expresses doubt as to whether Germany or Belgium will consent to restore British commercial freedom of action, and declares that the establishment of preferential arrangements between England and the colonies would be to great a transformation from the accepted policy of free trade that the subject can hardly be discussed merely with the object of promoting Imperial unity.

The *Standard* also doubts whether the objections to the proposed Pacific cable have been removed in Lord Jersey's report. It, however, points out that the Atlantic steam service between Canada and England promoted by Mr. James Huddart possesses considerable advantages.

Heavy fighting has taken place at Unyoro, on the borders of Uganda, East Africa, between a large force of Arabs, under Kaba Rega, a powerful slave-dealer, and the British garrison stationed there. The Arabs were defeated.

December 6th.

The report of the Earl of Jersey, the British delegate to the Federal Conference at Ottawa, upon the proceedings and results of the conference, has been well received in Canada.

The Hon. J. Mackenzie Bowell, Minister of Trade and Commerce, expresses his belief that it will tend to greatly strengthen Imperial feeling, and to promote the closer union of the colonies.

The *Times* commends Lord Jersey's ability and his sympathy with the objects of the conference, and expresses the hope that his mission to Canada will result in his permanent connection with the colonial service.

In replying to the German Reichstag to-day the Emperor William announced that bills would be introduced to oppose the proposed abolition of the duties on tobacco in the fulfilment of their duty, to prevent abuses in Bourse operations and to counteract unfair competition, and to reform the tobacco taxation.

The *Westminster Gazette* suggests that Germany should cede to Great Britain, in exchange for Samoa, the territory on the banks of Lake Nyassa and Lake Tanganyika, and a strip of 50 miles of country between Lake Tanganyika and Lake Albert Edward Nyassa, in German East Africa.

Major Hamborough, father of Lieutenant Windsor Hamborough, who was shot at Ardnamoan, Scotland, in August, 1893, brought an action against an insurance company to recover the amount due on two policies of insurance for £20,000 on the life of his son. The insurance company refused to pay the amount on the ground that the proposal forms when taking out the policies contained false statements.

The Court upheld the objection, and gave a verdict for the company.

At the request of the Sultan of Turkey, England will be represented on the Turkish Commission of Inquiry into the alleged atrocities in Armenia.

December 6th.

Russia intends to despatch reinforcements to the Caucasus in consequence of the unsettled state of Turkish Armenia. Twenty thousand troops are to be sent out immediately.

The Egyptian Government contemplates expending £60,000 on the construction of new highhouses in the Red Sea.

French mailers are occupying Majunga, a port on the north-west coast of Madagascar, and also Tamatave, on the east coast. The Hovas have withdrawn from those ports and gone into the interior.

Six bunters, shipped by the steamer *Thermopylae*, of the Aberdeen White Star line, from Sydney, have arrived in good condition, although rough weather was encountered on the voyage.

At the meeting of shareholders of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company held to-day, Sir Thomas Sutherland, chairman of the Board of Directors, stated that the low price of silver was seriously affecting the profits of the company. At the same time, however, there was no cause for discouragement. Debentures were held in readiness to meet the requirements of new mail contracts.

Lord George Hamilton, M.P., who was First Lord of the Admiralty in the last Salisbury Administration, has been elected Chairman of the London School Board.

Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams has granted an order for the compulsory winding-up of the Bank of South Australia (in liquidation), on the petition of the Union Bank of Australia.

December 7th.

The British Government has issued orders for the permanent arming of the vessels of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Peninsular and Oriental Company selected as armed merchant cruisers. Each steamer will also carry a gunboat.

The vessel belonging to the P. and O. Company, and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, held by the owners at the disposition of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are embraced in two classes. The first class receive an annual subvention. These are the *P. and O. liners Himalayas, Australia, Victoria, and Arcadia*, and the Canadian-Pacific Railway Company's *Empress of India, Empress of Japan, and Empress of Japan*. It is probable that the steamers referred to in the cable above are the ones just mentioned. There are also held at the disposal of the Admiralty, but without a special annual subvention, the following *P. and O. ships—Britannia, Oceana, Peninsular, Oriental, Victoria, Australia, Roma, Corinthia, Empress, and Parma*.

As can be seen that 14 of the finest ships in the P. and O. fleet are practically at the service of the Admiralty as merchant cruisers, and they comprise some of the swiftest merchant steamers afloat.—*Ed.*

AUCKLAND, December 7th.

Two men, named McGuire and Taylor, were burned to death to-day in a two-roomed house at Christchurch, the house having caught fire.

The Norwegian bark *Prospit*, while entering the harbour of Nukualofa struck on a reef, but got off. She afterwards succeeded in getting into port; but when the mail left she was leaking at the rate of 3 in. an hour.

LONDON, December 10th.

President Cleveland has issued a proclamation announcing the speedy operation of the new Chinese Exclusion Act.

General Gourko, the Governor of Warsaw, has resigned in consequence of being ordered by Czar Nicholas to adopt a more tolerant attitude towards the Catholics in Poland.

Fifteen anarchist followers have been arrested in connection with the great newspaper black-mail scandal in Paris.

An enormous loss of forged American bonds have been discovered in the United Kingdom.

BREITENBURG, December 11th.

The international cricket match England v. Queensland, was concluded yesterday and resulted in a victory for the Englishmen by an innings and 274 runs. The scores were: England, 1st innings, 494; Queensland, 1st innings, 121, second innings, 90.

Sydney, December 11th.

An old man named William McKelvey, while walking over a railway crossing, was struck and knocked down by a train and killed.

In Sydney yesterday Alfred Green was charged with the murder of Thomas Harvey, a watchmaker, who was killed with intent to murder, and sentenced to death.

The jury, having recommended that the body of the deceased be buried, the coroner ordered the body to be buried in the cemetery.

HEBRIID resulted in the Captain, navigating officer and the officer on the watch being found guilty of negligence and severely reprimanded.

MELB, 11th December 11th.

At Dandenong, in Victoria, Sarah Masters murdered her infant child and then committed suicide by hanging herself.

AUCKLAND, December 11th.

The decision of the Court with regard to the wreck of the steamer *Wairarapa* has been given. The Captain is held to be alone to blame for the wreck, and if he were alive his certificate would be cancelled; but the conduct of some of the other officers and crew is severely commented upon, while the third officer is highly commended.

LONDON, December 11th.

The price of Queensland beef is advancing in London, and fore-quarters are quoted at three pence per lb.

The Rothschilds consent to float the new Russian loan on the express assurance that the persecution of the Jews in Russia shall cease.

Lord Rosebery, in a speech at Devonport, disclaimed any idea of reforming the House of Lords, but declared that their absolute power of veto must cease.

The Czar Nicholas is declared to have assured the Prince of Wales that while he lives there will never be anything but friendship between Russia and England.

SYDNEY, December 13th.

News has reached Sydney of the wreck of the schooner *Thistle* off Cooks Bay, in the Solomon group. All hands were saved.

AUCKLAND, December 13th.

The Wakapiti hospital, in New Zealand, has been burned down, but the inmates were safely removed.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ear, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free.—Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superseded. Address THOMAS KEMPE, Victoria Chambers, 19, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, London.—*Advt.*

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

D'ARCS BIJOU THEATRE, (NEAR PRAYA RECLAMATION).

D'ARCS FANTOCHES FRANCAISES (MARIONETTES.) EVERY EVENING AT 9 P.M.

TO-MORROW, THE DAWN OF A NEW YEAR, AND A GREAT DAY AT THE MARIONETTES FOR EVERYBODY.

SPECIAL MATINEE AT 4 P.M. FULL PROGRAMME: ELECTRIC LIGHT. CHILDREN HALF-PRICE.

IN THE EVENING AT 9 P.M. GRAND NEW YEAR PROGRAMME.

PRICES AS USUAL. Non-Commissioned Officers of H.M. Army and Navy half-price to Pit and Gallery. PLAN NEW YEAR'S DAY AT THE THEATRE.

MISS E. N. & M. D'ARCS, Sole Proprietors, W. D'ARCS, Stage Manager, E. C. CLITHEROW, General Manager. Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. [1352]

NOTICE.

THE PARTNERSHIP, hitherto existing between the undersigned, under the firm of COHEN & GEORG, has been dissolved by MUTUAL CONSENT.

CHS. C. COHEN, ERICH GEORG. Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. [1353]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION. NO. 499.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE PUNJON MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above COMPANY will be held at the Office of the Company, CONNAUGHT HOUSE, on MONDAY, the 14th January, 1895, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Account in 10th September, 1894, and for the election of Directors and Auditors.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, Secretary. Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. [1350]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAIWANFOO. THE Company's Steamship "THALES."

Captain H. Bathurst, will be despatched for the above Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 2nd January, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers, Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. [1354]

"STRATH" LINE OF STEAMERS. FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA & HIOGO. THE Steamship "TENASSERIM."

Captain Robertson, will be despatched as above on or about TUESDAY, the 8th January. For Freight or Passage, apply to DODWELL, CARILL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. [1355]

COALS and all kinds of STORES SUPPLIED on the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms. Manila, 5th October, 1895. [1053]

TO SHIPMASTERS. STEAM WATER-BOT COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to SUPPLY on shortest notice any quantity of PURE FRESH FILTERED WATER for both DECK and BOILER.

The only Company in Hongkong exclusively Supplying FILTERED WATER. Despatch Guaranteed. Call Flag "W." J. W. KEW & Co., 18, Praya Central, Hongkong, 17th November, 1894. [1604]

G. FALCONER & CO., WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS AND JEWELLERS. NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS AND BOOKS. No. 48, Queen's Road Central. [1609]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO., CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER SMITHS, AND OPTICIANS. CHARTS AND BOOKS. NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS. Sole Agents for Louis Audemars, Watchmaker, the highest Prize at every Exhibition; and for Volkmann and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE GLASSES and SPYGLASSES. No. 8, Queen's Road Central. [1608]

Share Market.

LATENT QUOTATIONS.

BANKS.
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—113 per cent.
 The National Bank of China, Ltd.—on £8.00.
 The National Bank of China, Ltd.—Founders' shares—nominal.
 The Bank of China, Japan & the Straits, Ltd.—Founders' shares—£5, buyers.

CHINESE LOANS.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—11 per cent.
 minimum.

MARINE INSURANCES.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$127 per share, sellers.
 China Marine Insurance Company—\$59 per share, buyers.
 North China Insurance—Tls. 200 per share, buyers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$145 per share, buyers.
 Yangtze Insurance Association—\$77, buyers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 15 per share, buyers.
 The Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$18 per share, buyers.

FIRE INSURANCES.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$175 per share, buyers.
 Canton Fire Insurance Company—\$75 per share, buyers.
 The Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$2 per share, buyers.

SHIPPING.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamship Co.—\$64 per share, buyers.
 Canton and Manila Steam Ship Company—\$66, sellers.
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—\$30, sellers.
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$51, buyers.
 China Mutual Shipping Co., Ltd.—(Preference)—\$6 per share, nominal.
 China Mutual Shipping Co., Ltd.—(Ordinary)—\$1 per share, nominal.

REFINERIES.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$140 per share, sellers.
 Luen Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$48, sellers.

MINING.

Pacific Mining Co.—(Ordinary)—\$8 per share, sales and sellers.
 Pacific Mining Co.—(Preference)—\$1.90 per share, buyers.
 The South Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$4.50 per share, sellers.
 The Hualong Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$2.50 per share, sales and buyers.
 The Hualong Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$2.50 per share, sales and buyers.
 The Hualong Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$2.50 per share, sales and buyers.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$2 per share, nominal, buyers.
 Godown & Co., Limited—\$17 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$2 per share, nominal, buyers.
 Godown & Co., Limited—\$17 per share, sellers.

HOTELS.

Hongkong Hotel Company—\$9 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—nominal.

LANDS AND BUILDINGS.

The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—\$9 per share, sellers.
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—\$9 per share, sellers.
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—\$9 per share, sellers.

DISPENSARIES.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$0.75, sellers.
 Watson, Duncan & Co., Limited—\$1 per share, buyers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Hongkong Valley Farm Co., Limited—\$31 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Valley Farm Co., Limited—\$31 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Valley Farm Co., Limited—\$31 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Valley Farm Co., Limited—\$31 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Valley Farm Co., Limited—\$31 per share, buyers.

EXCHANGES.

ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 2/0
 Bank Bills, on demand 2/0
 Bank Bills, at 4 months sight 2/0
 Credits at 4 months sight 2/0
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight 2/0
 ON PARIS—Bank 2 1/2
 Credits, at 4 months sight 2 1/2
 ON INDIA—T. T. 187
 On Demand 187
 ON SHANGHAI—Bank, T. T. 7 1/2
 Private, 30 days sight 7 1/2
 Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate), 89.75
 Silver (per oz.) 27 1/2

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Suffey*, with the outward English mail, left Singapore on the 27th instant, and may be expected here on the 27th proximo.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Oceanic*, with mail, from San Francisco on the 4th inst., left Yokohama on the 26th for Nagasaki, and may be expected here on the 1st proximo.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, with mail, from San Francisco on the 13th inst., left Yokohama on the 26th for Nagasaki, and may be expected here on the 1st proximo.

DEPARTURES.

On the 30th, *Singapore*, British steamer, for London, 1st Dec.
 On the 31st, *Singapore*, British steamer, for London, 1st Dec.

31st CANADIAN MAIL.
 The Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, left Shanghai on the 27th instant, and may be expected here on the 2nd proximo.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The steamer *Arroyo* left Singapore on the 25th instant, and may be expected here on the 2nd proximo.
 The steamer *Pekin*, from Calcutta, left Singapore on the 27th instant, and may be expected here on the 2nd proximo.
 The steamer *Monmouthshire* left Singapore on the 26th instant, and may be expected here on the 3rd proximo.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Ceylon*, from London, left Bombay on the 22nd instant, and may be expected here on the 9th proximo.

VISITORS AT THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

Miss Elsie Adair.
 Miss M. D'Arc.
 Miss F. D'Arc.
 Miss N. D'Arc.
 Miss E. D'Arc.
 Miss W. D'Arc.
 Miss S. A. Bayles, M.A.
 Mr. W. Blayney.
 Mr. J. Boyce.
 Mr. J. Bradley.
 Mr. W. F. Cantor.
 Mr. E. C. Clitherton.
 Capt. W. Robinson.
 Mr. F. Dallas.
 Mr. R. H. Douglas.
 Miss N. Drum.
 Mr. W. A. Duff.
 Mr. C. N. Edison.
 Mr. G. Fenwick.
 Mr. D. Galvao.
 Mr. W. B. Vandenberg.
 Miss M. A. Greene.
 Mr. J. Hansen.
 Mr. C. H. S. Harris.
 Mr. H. R. Hearson.
 Mrs. Hodgins.
 Mrs. Hogg & children.
 Mrs. S. John.
 Mr. J. Kinghorn.
 Mr. T. Kirkwood.
 Mr. R. F. Lamb.
 Mr. R. Lyall.
 Mr. H. MacCallum.
 Mr. J. McWilliams.
 Mr. F. Meyer.
 Mr. T. Mitchell.
 Mr. J. de Navarro.
 Mr. W. Parfitt.
 Mr. S. W. Perkins.
 Mr. L. D. Phillips.
 Mrs. Richardson.
 Mr. W. Robinson.
 Mr. C. Rombach.
 Mr. F. E. Shean.
 Miss Smith.
 Mr. A. B. Snotova.
 Mr. L. Spitzel.
 Mr. P. Sturges.
 Mr. W. T. Tarn.
 Mr. H. A. Thompson.
 Mr. W. B. Vandenberg.
 Mr. F. M. Vermilye.
 Mr. and Mrs. Whitley.
 Mr. P. Williams.
 Surgeon-Captain Wolfe.
 Miss Young.
 Mr. G. Yaddell.

VISITORS AND RESIDENTS AT THE PEAR HOTEL.

Mr. M. G. Allen.
 Mr. J. G. B. B. B.
 Mr. J. A. E. Chaudet.
 Miss Joe.
 Mr. H. Crombie.
 Mr. R. P. Dipple.
 Mr. J. P. Dowling.
 Mr. F. H. Slagden.
 Mr. W. S. Harrison.
 Mr. Geo. Holmes.
 Mrs. G. Holmes.
 Mr. J. E. Macrae.
 Mr. M. Jones.
 Major and Mrs. Moore.
 Mr. J. L. Prosser.
 Mr. J. Rankin.
 Mr. Sandilands.
 Mr. and Mrs. Sansom.
 Mr. F. H. Slagden.
 Mr. A. Findlay.
 Smith and family.
 Mr. A. G. Stokes.
 Rev. and Mrs. Vallings.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.
 CELESTES, Dutch steamer, 1,400, M. de Wyn, 29th Dec.—Proboling 19th Dec., Timber.

COPACK, British steamer, 2,517, C. de la Perelle, 29th Dec.—Liverpool 16th November, General.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

ACTIV, Danish steamer, 355, H. W. Storm, 30th Dec.—Pakhoi 26th Dec., and Hallow 28th, General.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

RIVERSDALE, British steamer, 1,311, E. de Pak, 30th Dec.—Molli 24th Dec., Coals.—Milne Bussan Kaitia.

STRAITS OF DOVER, British steamer, 1,004, Ed. Holliday, 30th Dec.—Molli 24th Dec., Coals.—Carlowitz & Co.

ORESTES, British steamer, 2,845, J. Palford, 30th Dec.—Singapore 23rd Dec., General.—Butenfield & Swire.

LAWARD, German steamer, 1,537, H. Fornes, 30th Dec.—Singapore 23rd Dec., General.—Stemmen & Co.

MUREX, British steamer, 2,343, Parsons, 30th Dec.—Batoum 17th November, General.—Order.

GIBRALTAR, British steamer, 2,408, Captain A. MacLeod, 30th Dec.—Singapore 23rd Dec., General.—Order.

TAICHOW, British steamer, 861, H. Deane, 30th Dec.—Bangkok, and Ang-hin 31st Dec., General.—Yuen Fat Hong.

NAMVONG, British steamer, 987, C. F. Bullen, 30th Dec.—Penang 14th December, and Singapore 18th, General.—Chinese.

FOOKSANG, British steamer, 931, Spencer White, 30th Dec.—Shanghai 27th December, and Swatow 29th, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

TAIYUAN, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 30th Dec.—Sydney, and Port Darwin 30th Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

KWANGLOO, British steamer, 1,505, Lincoln, 30th Dec.—Canton 30th Dec., General.—C. M. S. N. Co.

CANTON, British steamer, 1,110, Sellar, 30th Dec.—Shanghai 27th Dec., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

SWATOW, German steamer, 623, H. Brömmen, 31st Dec.—General.—A. R. Marty.

VEROVA, British steamer, 1,876, C. H. S. Toppo, R.N.R. 31st Dec.—Yokohama 22nd Dec., Mats and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

JAVA, British steamer, 2,621, F. N. Tillard, 31st Dec.—London, via Bombay 10th Nov., General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

YUNNANG, British steamer, 1,106, W. Wadsworth, 31st Dec.—Manila 28th Dec., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

FUSHUN, British steamer, 1,504, W. H. Lunt, 31st Dec.—Shanghai 28th Dec., General.—C. M. S. N. Co.

BYODO, Norwegian steamer, 771, C. Brakke, 31st Dec.—Canton 31st Dec., General.—Wieler & Co.

KWONGSANG, British steamer, 998, W. Innes, 31st Dec.—Canton 31st Dec., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

MING-VI, German steamer, 1,064, J. Warrick, 31st Dec.—Chinkiang 27th Dec., Rice.—C. M. S. N. Co.

PENINSULAR, British steamer, 2,711, R. F. Briscoe, R.N.R. 31st Dec.—Shanghai 28th Dec., Mats and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
 Active, Danish steamer, for Hallow.
 Nanyang, British steamer, for Amoy.
 Doris, German steamer, for Halphong.
 Kwanglo, British steamer, for Shanghai.
 Fookshin, German steamer, for Saigon.
 Orestes, British steamer, for Amoy.
 Fookshin, British steamer, for Saigon.
 Laward, German steamer, for Yokohama.
 Rivasda, British steamer, for Molli.
 Pekin, British steamer, for Amoy.

On the 30th, *Singapore*, British steamer, for London, 1st Dec.
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December 30, *Memur*, British steamer, for Macao, Timor, and Sydney.
 December 30, *Takong*, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
 December 30, *Ethiopia*, British steamer, for Kuchino.
 December 30, *Halong*, British steamer, for Swatow.
 December 30, *Weyfield*, British steamer, for Singapore.
 December 30, *Kwong-mo*, British steamer, for Amoy.
 December 30, *Pallas*, British steamer, for Kuchino.
 December 31, *Murex*, British steamer, for Shanghai.
 December 31, *Arday*, British steamer, for Singapore.
 December 31, *Kwong-sang*, British steamer, for Shanghai.
 December 31, *Fookshin*, British steamer, for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.

Per *Fookshin*, from Shanghai, &c.—Captain Steward, Dr. Carter, Mr. Ogilvie, and 54 Chinese.
 Per *Opack*, from Liverpool, &c.—Mrs. Hogg, 2 children and Chinese ayah, and 33 Chinese.
 Per *Tachow*, from Bangkok, &c.—Mr. de Costa, and 58 Chinese.
 Per *Celebes*, from Probolinggo.—1 European and 142 Chinese.
 Per *Laward*, from Singapore.—1 European and 142 Chinese.
 Per *Orestes*, from Singapore.—250 Chinese.
 Per *Activ*, from Pakhoi, &c.—21 Chinese.
 Per *Verova*, from Yokohama for Hongkong.—Mrs. St. John, Miss Smith, Messrs. R. Jones, J. Lydard, R. Stewart, and 4 Chinese.
 From Kobe.—Mr. and Mrs. K. Isonaga, Captain C. Rowlin, Mr. Wong Wal Lam, and infant, 38 Chinese, 17 Malay, 3 Japanese, and 1 woman.
 From Nagasacki.—Mrs. Kondo, Messrs. Kuik-reu, Kikokaki, Takaya, Uch Koh Mi, Sawata, and 5 Chinese.
 From Kobe for Singapore.—Messrs. W. Campbell, J. Miller, F. Thornton, J. Drysdale, and C. G. Walter.
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Sydney, &c.—5 Europeans and 37 Chinese.
 Per *Swatow*, from Halphong.—Mr. Brier, and 3 Chinese.
 Per *Canton*, from Shanghai.—12 Chinese.
 Per *Fookshin*, from Shanghai.—80 Chinese.
 Per *Yunnan*, from Manila.—Mr. Skerchley, and 76 Chinese.
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Singapore.—126 Chinese.
 Per *Penninsular*, from Shanghai for Hongkong.—Messrs. W. J. Lewis, Leong, M. Moller, John Moller, Low Choo, and native servant, Tong Sol and native servant, and G. Jarvis.
 For Bombay.—Mr. R. S. Raphael, for London.—Mrs. A. Knott, Miss S. Harris, Messrs. A. C. Harris, Jas. MacGowan, and Lieut. W. Richardson, R.N. For Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Turley.

REPORTS.

The British steamship *Penninsular* reports that she left Shanghai on the 29th instant, and had fair weather throughout.

The German steamship *Activ* reports that she left Chinkiang on the 27th instant, and had strong winds throughout.

The British steamship *Yunnan* reports that she left Manila on the 28th instant, and had strong monsoon and heavy sea, misty on approaching port.

The British steamship *Straits of Dover* reports that she left Molli (Japan) on the 24th instant, and had strong north-east monsoon from lat. 20° 27' deg. north and long. 124° 6' deg. east, accompanied by heavy showers of rain, to port.

The British steamship *Orestes* reports that she left Singapore on the 23rd instant, and had variable winds and heavy head sea, with occasional field bank, thence to port had strong monsoon with thick weather and high sea. Anchored off Green Island at 8 p.m. on the 26th.

The British steamship *Fookshin* reports that she left Shanghai on the 28th instant, and had moderate to fresh northerly winds and cloudy weather to Hallow; thence to Brakke Point had moderate monsoon and cloudy weather with moderate following sea, thence to port had moderate north-north-east winds and heavy weather with light rain at times.

The British steamship *Murex* reports that she left Batoum on the 17th November. From Batoum to Constantinople had strong north-north-east gale with heavy sea. From Constantinople to Singapore had moderate weather and fine weather. From Singapore to port encountered a heavy gale of wind, which prevailed for two days, with high confused sea.

The British steamship *Opack* reports that she left Liverpool on the 16th ultimo. From Liverpool to as far as Gibraltar had strong south-west gale and high sea; thence to Singapore had fair weather with light monsoon crossing the Indian Ocean. From Singapore had very high cross sea and unsettled weather for first four days; thence to port had fresh monsoon and high sea.

The British steamship *Tachow*, from Bangkok, reports that she left Amoy on the 21st instant. From Amoy to Pakhoi had fresh north-east monsoon and clear weather. From Pakhoi to Cape Padaran had moderate monsoon and cloudy weather. From Cape Padaran to North Reef had strong north-north-east gale with thick rainy weather and high cross sea, and shipping large quantities of water fore and aft. From North Reef to port had strong monsoon and thick rainy weather with high sea and shipping large quantities of water fore and aft.

The British steamship *Fookshin* reports that she left Shanghai on the 28th instant, and Swatow on the 30th. From Shanghai to Tung-shing had light variable winds with dull hazy weather; thence to Decid Island had moderate north-east winds and sea with thick rainy weather. To Swatow had strong north-east winds with high following sea and equally weather. From Swatow to Chinkiang had moderate northerly winds with thick misty weather; thence to port had fresh north-north-east winds and overcast weather with considerable east-north-east swell throughout.

The British steamship *Penninsular* reports that she left Shanghai on the 29th instant, and had fair weather throughout.

The British steamship *Activ* reports that she left Chinkiang on the 27th instant, and had strong winds throughout.

The British steamship *Yunnan* reports that she left Manila on the 28th instant, and had strong monsoon and heavy sea, misty on approaching port.

The British steamship *Straits of Dover* reports that she left Molli (Japan) on the 24th instant, and had strong north-east monsoon from lat. 20° 27' deg. north and long. 124° 6' deg. east, accompanied by heavy showers of rain, to port.

The British steamship *Orestes* reports that she left Singapore on the 23rd instant, and had variable winds and heavy head sea, with occasional field bank, thence to port had strong monsoon with thick weather and high sea. Anchored off Green Island at 8 p.m. on the 26th.

The British steamship *Fookshin* reports that she left Shanghai on the 28th instant, and had moderate to fresh northerly winds and cloudy weather to Hallow; thence to Brakke Point had moderate monsoon and cloudy weather with moderate following sea, thence to port had moderate north-north-east winds and heavy weather with light rain at times.

The British steamship *Murex* reports that she left Batoum on the 17th November. From Batoum to Constantinople had strong north-north-east gale with heavy sea. From Constantinople to Singapore had moderate weather and fine weather. From Singapore to port encountered a heavy gale of wind, which prevailed for two days, with high confused sea.

The British steamship *Opack* reports that she left Liverpool on the 16th ultimo. From Liverpool to as far as Gibraltar had strong south-west gale and high sea; thence to Singapore had fair weather with light monsoon crossing the Indian Ocean. From Singapore had very high cross sea and unsettled weather for first four days; thence to port had fresh monsoon and high sea.

The British steamship *Tachow*, from Bangkok, reports that she left Amoy on the 21st instant. From Amoy to Pakhoi had fresh north-east monsoon and clear weather. From Pakhoi to Cape Padaran had moderate monsoon and cloudy weather. From Cape Padaran to North Reef had strong north-north-east gale with thick rainy weather and high cross sea, and shipping large quantities of water fore and aft. From North Reef to port had strong monsoon and thick rainy weather with high sea and shipping large quantities of water fore and aft.

The British steamship *Fookshin* reports that she left Shanghai on the 28th instant, and Swatow on the 30th. From Shanghai to Tung-shing had light variable winds with dull hazy weather; thence to Decid Island had moderate north-east winds and sea with thick rainy weather. To Swatow had strong north-east winds with high following sea and equally weather. From Swatow to Chinkiang had moderate northerly winds with thick misty weather; thence to port had fresh north-north-east winds and overcast weather with considerable east-north-east swell throughout.

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The British steamship *Fookshin* reports that she left Shanghai on the 28th instant, and had moderate to fresh northerly winds and cloudy weather to Hallow; thence to Brakke Point had moderate monsoon and cloudy weather with moderate following sea, thence to port had moderate north-north-east winds and heavy weather with light rain at times.

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